

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading unit configured to read image data of a document
~~means for reading plural pages of a document;~~

an image storage unit configured to store ~~means for storing the~~ image data ~~read produced by the~~ [[said]] image reading unit [[means]];

a display unit configured to display ~~means for displaying the~~ image data stored in the image storage unit; ~~means;~~ and

a reading control unit configured to perform a successive reading operation, wherein, in the successive reading operation, plural sets of document sheets divided from a series of document sheets are independently read by the image reading unit, and image data corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored in the image storage unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of document sheets; and

a control unit configured to enable the display unit to display ~~means for controlling the reading operation for the plural pages of the document and displaying of image data corresponding to the read image data after reading each set of document sheets in the successive reading operation on the display means such that the stored image data is displayed at an interval during the reading operation before completing the reading operation for the plural pages of document.~~

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising means for executing a binding reading mode~~

~~wherein, in the binding reading mode, a series of document sheets are divided into a plural set of document sheets, each divided set of document sheets is separately read, and the plural set of image read by the plural reading operations are combined and stored as a series of read image,~~

~~wherein the control unit interval enables the display unit to display the stored image data at an interval between a first reading process for one divided set of document ~~[[sheet]]~~ sheets and a second reading process for another divided set of document sheets, the second reading process being performed after the first reading process.~~

Claim 3 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

~~a command acceptance unit configured to accept means for accepting a read-end read-end command in the successive reading operation binding reading mode,~~

~~wherein, in the successive reading operation, binding reading mode, said the control unit enables the display unit to display the stored means is adapted to be capable of displaying image data stored in the image storage means on the display means before the command acceptance unit ~~[[means]]~~ accepts the read-end command.~~

Claim 4 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, in the successive reading operation, the ~~binding reading mode~~, said control unit enables the display unit to display the stored means is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the display means before the second reading process is started.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, in the successive reading operation, the ~~binding reading mode~~, said control unit enables the display unit to display the stored means is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the

~~display means~~ after completion of the first reading process and before the second reading process is started.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a re-read unit configured to re-read ~~means for re-reading~~ a document page by ~~[[said]]~~ the image reading unit ~~[[means]]~~ and replace ~~replacing~~ image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on ~~[[said]]~~ the display unit ~~[[means]]~~ with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command to display image data stored in the image storage unit ~~[[means]]~~ on the display unit ~~[[means]]~~ is enabled.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a read-end command in the successive reading operation ~~binding reading mode~~ is enabled.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page by the ~~[[said]]~~ image reading unit ~~[[means]]~~ and replace image data currently displayed on the ~~[[said]]~~ display unit ~~[[means]]~~ with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): An image processing apparatus according to claim 2 [[1]], further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

a suspending instruction unit configured to instruct suspension of ~~manual means for temporarily suspending the~~ successive reading operation for the

series of document sheets and resume resuming the suspended reading operation,

wherein the interval is provided by the suspending instruction unit said manual means.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): An image processing method comprising:
~~an image reading step for reading a plural pages of a document;~~
~~an image storage step for storing image data produced by said image reading means;~~

~~a display step for displaying image data stored in the image storage means~~ performing a successive reading operation, wherein, in the successive reading operation, plural sets of document sheets divided from a series of document sheets are independently read, and image data corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored in an image storage unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of document sheets; and

~~a control step for controlling the reading operation for the plural pages of the document and displaying of~~ allowing a display unit to display the stored image data corresponding to the read image data after reading each set of document sheets in the successive reading operation on the display means such that the stored image data is displayed at an interval during the reading operation before completing the reading operation for the plural pages of document.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 11 ~~[[1]], further comprising an execution step for executing a binding reading mode wherein, in the binding reading mode, a series of document sheets are divided into a plural set of document sheets, each divided set of document sheets is separately read, and the plural set of image read by the plural reading operations are combined and stored as a series of read image,~~

wherein displaying of the stored image data by the display unit is allowed at the interval is an interval between a first reading process for one divided set of document sheets ~~[[sheet]]~~ and a second reading process for another divided set

of document sheets, the second reading process being performed after the first reading process.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 12, further comprising:

~~a command acceptance step for accepting a read-end~~ read-end command in the successive reading operation ~~binding reading mode,~~

wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored ~~binding reading mode,~~ ~~said control step is adapted to be capable of displaying~~ image data by the display unit is allowed ~~stored in the image storage means on the display means before the command acceptance step accepts the read-end command~~ is accepted.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 12, wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored ~~binding reading mode,~~ ~~said control step is capable of displaying~~ image data by the display unit is allowed ~~stored in said image storage means on the display means before the second reading process is started.~~

Claim 15 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 12, wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored ~~binding reading mode,~~ ~~said control step is capable of displaying~~ image data by the display unit is allowed ~~stored in said image storage means on the display means after completion of the first reading process and before the second reading~~ reading ~~[[input]]~~ process is started.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 11, further comprising:

~~a re-read step for re-reading a document page;~~ ~~by said image reading means and~~

replacing image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on ~~[[said]]~~ the display unit ~~[[means]]~~ with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 12, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command to display image data stored in the image storage unit ~~[[means]]~~ on the display unit ~~[[means]]~~ is enabled.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 13, wherein in response to completion of the first reading ~~[[input]]~~ process, inputting of a read-end command in the successive reading operation ~~binding reading mode~~ is enabled.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 15, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page ~~by said image reading means~~ and replace image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on ~~[[said]]~~ the display unit ~~[[means]]~~ with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): An image processing method according to claim 12 ~~[[11]]~~, further comprising:

~~a manual step for temporarily suspending~~ instructing suspension of the successive reading operation for the series of document sheets; and
resuming the suspended reading operation,
wherein the interval is provided by the instruction ~~said manual step~~.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 11.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 12.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 13.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 14.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 15.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 16.

Claim 27 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 17.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 18.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 19.

Claim 30 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions ~~program~~ for implementing an image processing method according to claim 20.